

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 18317 01 OF 02 031711Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 SMS-02 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 HA-05
OES-09 /125 W
-----077905 031731Z /47

R 031700Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5144
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 18317

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, SALT, MBFR, UR, US
SUBJECT: SOVIETS ON STATE OF DETENTE
REF: MOSCOW 17263

SUMMARY: ISSUE OF DETENTE AND ITS ENEMIES PREOCCUPIES
SOVIET PRESS OF AUGUST 2-3. THE "ENEMIES OF DETENTE",
AND SPECIFICALLY PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR BRZEZINSKI,
ARE PICTURED AS OUT OF TOUCH WITH MAJORITY OPINION
IN THE WEST WHILE SOVIET SUPPORT FOR DETENTE IS
REAFFIRMED. PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON DETENTE IS SECOND
IN THREE WEEKS ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHICH STRIKES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 18317 01 OF 02 031711Z

EMBASSY AS PECULIAR GIVEN THE INFREQUENCY OF
COMMENTARY ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AT THAT LEVEL. END
SUMMARY.
1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. PRAVDA EDITORIAL OF
AUGUST 3 OPENS BY CITING AS ONE OF THE MAJOR
SUCCESES OF DETENTE THE IMPROVEMENT OF "THE
POLITICAL CLIMATE" IN EUROPE, SPECIFYING IMPROVED

SOVIET-FRG RELATIONS. EDITORIAL THEN STATES THAT FURTHER PROGRESS DEPENDS GREATLY ON THE SETTLEMENT OF QUESTIONS "IN THE MILITARY SPHERE." IT DESCRIBES MBFR AS "A MOST IMPORTANT (VAZHNEISHIY)" FACTOR IN ARMS CONTROL. IN COMPARISON, SALT RECEIVES LESS WARM ENDORSEMENT AS THE EDITORIAL STATES THAT THE WORLD "AWAITS POSITIVE RESULTS IN SUCH AREAS" AS SALT, THE CONCLUSION OF WHICH "WOULD BE A SERIOUS STIMULUS" TO DETENTE.

2. EDITORIAL THEN WARNS THAT "CHANGES DANGEROUS TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE" ARE TAKING PLACE AND THAT THE FIRMNESS OF DETENTE IS BEING TESTED. GROUPS IN THE WEST ALLEGEDLY DESIRING TO RETURN TO THE COLD WAR AS WELL AS PEKING ARE BLAMED FOR THIS SITUATION. THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDES BY REAFFIRMING SOVIET DETERMINATION TO PURSUE DETENTE AND BY QUOTING BREZHNEV'S SPEECH IN MINSK TO THAT EFFECT.

3. SAME ISSUE OF PRAVDA ALSO CARRIES A COMMENTARY BY VLADIMIR BOLSHAKOV ON THE RECENT INCREASED ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S. OF THE ENEMIES OF DETENTE WHO HAVE SOUGHT TO BREAK OFF TRADE RELATIONS AND SALT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USSR. BOLSHAKOV NOTES OPPOSITION BY U.S. BUSINESS INTERESTS TO TRADE RESTRICTIONS AND REPORTS THAT PUBLIC OPINIO, POLLS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 18317 01 OF 02 031711Z

IN THE U.S. SHOW OPPOSITION TO BREAKING OFF SALT. HE WRITES THAT THE OPPONENTS OF DETENTE ARE ACTING CONTRARY TO THE DESIRES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND CALLS ON THE ADMINISTRATION TO HEED THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

4. IZVESTIYA OF AUGUST 2 CARRIES A FAR LONGER PIECE ON THE SAME THEME BY V. PETRUSENKO, WHICH IS PRIMARILY AN ATTACK ON NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR BRZEZINSKI, SIMILAR IN MANY WAYS TO ARTICLE DESCRIBED REFTEL. BRZEZINSKI AND THE NSC ARE COUNTERPOSED TO STATE DEPARTMENT AS THE ENEMIES OF DETENTE WHO ARE SEEKING TO DICTATE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. THE "ZIG-ZAGS" IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY SAID TO BE CAUSED BY THE "HARD LINE" OF BRZEZINSKI HAVE NOT BEEN SUPPORTED BY THE U.S. PUBLIC, THE "OVERWHELMING MAJORITY" OF WHICH IS SAID TO SUPPORT DETENTE. SIMILARLY, PETRUSENKO CONCLUDES, WESTERN EUROPEAN POLITICAL FIGURES HAVE REACTED WITH "RESTRAINT IF NOT COOLNESS" TO A POLICY OF RETURNING TO THE COLD WAR AND ARE DETERMINED TO CONTINUE TO SEEK COOPERATION WITH THE USSR. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. ON THE QUESTION OF SOVIET REACTION TO RECENT U.S. POLICIES, MINISTER KAMAL OF PAKISTAN EMBASSY REPORTS THAT DURING PAK MINISTER FOR FINANCE KHAN'S MOSCOW TALKS WITH SOVIET CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS SEMYON SKACHKOV (REPORTED SEPT), LATTER EXPRESSED GREAT IRRITATION OVER U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY, AND WASHINGTON'S SLOWDOWN IN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TO THE USSR. SKACHKOV ALSO ATTACKED CHINESE "EXPANSIONISM." EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT SKACHKOV'S PRESENTATION WAS PROBABLY PRE-PLANNED. KAMAL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 18317 02 OF 02 031715Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 SMS-02 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 HA-05
OES-09 /125 W

-----077961 031730Z /47

R 031700Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5145
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 18317

USSALTTWO

RESPONDED THAT THIS DID NOT SEEM TO BE THE CASE AT ALL. SKACHKOV SEEMED GENUINELY IRRITATED AND EMOTIONALLY UPSET BY THE SUBJECT. JACOB MALIK, IN HIS TALKS WITH VISITING PAK MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AGHA SHAHI, EXPRESSED SIMILAR IRRITATION ABOUT U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.

KAMAL THOUGHT THAT SKACHKOV AND MALIK WERE PROBABLY REFLECTING VIEWS ACTUALLY HELD BY SENIOR SOVIETS AT THEIR LEVEL.

6. COMMENT: PRESS ARTICLES AND OUTBURST FOR THE BENEFIT OF PAKISTAN VISITORS REPRESENT FURTHER CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 18317 02 OF 02 031715Z

SOVIET EFFORT TO DENIGRATE AND ISOLATE THE SO-CALLED ENEMIES OF DETENTE BY POINTING OUT THE HARMFUL CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTIONS AND BY CLAIMING THAT THEY HAVE LITTLE SUPPORT AT HOME OR ABROAD. THESE EFFORTS ARE CONSISTENT WITH SOVIET BEHAVIOR AND COMMENTARY IN RECENT MONTHS.

7. ELEMENTS OF PRAVDA EDITORIAL STRIKE US AS OF MORE THAN ROUTINE INTEREST. THE PRIMACY GIVEN MBFR HAS APPEARED BEFORE (MOST NOTABLY IN BREZHNEV'S MINSK SPEECH), BUT IS INCONSISTENT WITH PRAVDA'S MOST RECENT EDITORIAL (JULY 14) ON FOREIGN POLICY AND DETENTE. WE FIND IT STRIKING THAT THESE TWO EDITORIALS (PLUS PRAVDA'S EDITORIAL OF JULY 21 ON SSOD) SHOULD APPEAR SO CLOSELY TOGETHER IN TIME, GIVEN THE GENERAL INFREQUENCY OF PRAVDA COMMENTARY ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN FRONT PAGE EDITORIALS. TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTE, POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW18317
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780318-0615
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW USSALTTWO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808102/aaaadhzb.tel
Line Count: 200
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8e110358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MOSCOW 17263
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1548116
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIETS ON STATE OF DETENTE
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, UR, US, STATE, MBFR, (BRZEZINSKI, ZBIGNIEW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8e110358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014